

GIBBONS

— SOLICITORS —



Howard on the carousel at Thursford

My dear readers, may I wish you all a Happy New Year. It is a fresh start and who knows what is around the corner. I only had one short holiday last year and I am hoping that I may do better this. Did you have a good Christmas. Well, as you can imagine I had to go hither and thither dragging Christmas puddings and fayre behind me. It sounds like a scene from *The Nutcracker*, a ballet that my mother and father used to take us to every year at The Festival Hall in London. I went to a delightful Christmas barristers' party given by Field Court Chambers in London. When I first qualified, I met my learned friend Timothy Carlisle of those Chambers with whom I consult to this day. You too of course can have the benefit of that advice through us. The party was very posh, a choir sang Christmas carols and I supped on champagne and canapés. Frank, my chauffeur, is not so keen on the London runs and so his protégé Christof took the reins. The weather dictated a journey in the Range Rover and naturally Hadleigh Car Wash (Tel. 07734 466902) ensured that the car was clean and ready for duty. I was so glad to learn that you have been visiting Hadleigh Car Wash in good numbers since my recommendation.

I have mentioned to you in previous years how much I enjoy the Thursford Christmas Spectacular. It is a Show that is extraordinary with a cast approaching one hundred, a band, a Wurlitzer – the colour, the glamour – it's show business. The Show beckoned twice for me this Christmas. The auditorium is for the rest of the year a steam museum and my photographer has caught me by the carousel. The journey is a good two hours from Hadleigh but those of you who do not wish to drive their motor cars can join one of the charabancs that go. An audience of 1500 sits twice a day through November and December.

Have you tried Hall Farm at Stratford St Mary Dedham CO7 6LS for a coffee and lovely cream scone or even lunch. It is worth a visit and there is an interesting farm shop.

Rightmove suggests that due to competition among mortgage lenders and shortage of homes for sale, house prices could rise next year. If you find yourself buying or selling then do consult with me. We have a fairly commercial approach to things and our clients enjoy our good old fashioned service. Whilst so many of us acquire goods "on line" one really needs to "go local" for the services of a solicitor. Do give us a call with your requirements.

Howard Gibbons

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